

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of:

**Bjerre et al.**

Serial No.: 09/973,082

Filed: October 10, 2001

For: Common Carrier System

Atty. Docket No.: 005432.00002

Group Art Unit: 3629

Examiner: Webb, J.

Confirmation No.: 4671

**SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop – Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Further to Applicants' amendment of February 22, 2006, please amend the instant application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the Listing of Claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A common carrier system comprising:  
a ~~plurality of entities first storage located at a first entity registered with the system, each entity having a computer storage; and~~  
a ~~second storage located at a second entity registered with the system; and~~  
a server at a ~~third second~~ entity that receives information from said ~~computer first storage of said plurality of entities and said second storage,~~ and provides a ~~computer user~~ interface displayed on a user's computer, ~~said server configured to enable the user interface enabling a user~~  
to create an electronic booking request,  
to submit the electronic booking request to the server which ~~will forward~~ ~~exchanges~~ said request to ~~with~~ at least ~~the a~~ first entity of said ~~plurality of entities,~~ and  
to receive confirmation of the electronic booking request from ~~the said~~ first entity as transmitted from the server.
2. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the electronic booking request is created from a template stored on the common carrier system, wherein the template was created by the user prior to the creation of the electronic booking request.
3. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the electronic booking request is created from a previously drafted electronic booking stored on the common carrier system, wherein the previously drafted electronic booking was created by the user or any other user prior to the creation of the electronic booking request, and wherein the previously drafted electronic booking was selected from ~~the results of a search performed by the user.~~
4. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 3, wherein the previously

drafted electronic booking was a confirmed electronic booking request that was confirmed by at least one of the plurality of entities registered with the system prior to the user or the any other user creating the electronic booking request.

5. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the electronic booking request includes a section which enables the user to request a container be transported, wherein the container is transported from an inland origin to a first vessel, the container is loaded onto the first vessel, the container is transported by the first vessel to a location, the container is discharged from the first vessel and the container is delivered to a destination.

6. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the user and the first entity negotiated shipping costs prior to the user submitting the electronic booking request.

7. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the user and the first entity never negotiated shipping costs prior to the user submitting the electronic booking request.

8. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 7, wherein the user is a new customer of the first entity.

9-12. Cancelled

13. (Currently Amended) A common carrier system comprising:  
a plurality of entities registered with the system, each entity having a computer storage;  
and  
~~a first storage located at a first entity registered with the system;~~  
~~a second storage located at a second entity registered with the system; and~~  
a server that receives information from a computer storage of a first entity of said

~~plurality of entities, said first storage and said second storage, and provides a computer user~~  
interface displayed on a user's computer, the ~~user interface~~server configured to enable ~~enabling~~ a user

to create an electronic booking request,  
to submit the electronic booking request to the server which ~~will forward~~exchanges said request ~~to with~~ at least the first entity and  
to receive confirmation of the electronic booking request from the first entity as transmitted from the server,

wherein the system, responsive to confirmation from the registered entity to the user and registered entity data, generates electronic event notification messages.

14. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 13, wherein the ~~server receives an indication from the user that is used to determine when user determines when the~~ system should notify the user of an event.

15. (Original) The system according to claim 14, wherein the event is a non-event.

16. (Original) The system according to claim 15, wherein the common carrier system notifies the user of the non-event after a predetermined time period has lapsed and the event has not occurred, wherein the user determines the predetermined time period.

17-51. Cancelled

52. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the electronic booking request comprises a routing request.

53. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 52, wherein the confirmation of the electronic booking request comprises routing information.

54. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the user interface further enables the user to send shipping instructions combined with the booking request to the first entity.

55. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the user interface further enables the user to receive a booking activity plan from the first entity.

56. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 55, wherein the confirmation of the electronic booking request comprises a booking activity plan.

57. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 55, wherein the booking activity plan comprises transport modes, transshipment locations, and interim arrival and departure dates and times.

58. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the electronic booking request is submitted using Extensible Markup Language (XML).

59. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the electronic booking request is submitted using Electronic Data Interchange (EDI).

60. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the electronic booking request is submitted using a website.

61. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the electronic booking request is submitted using electronic mail.

62. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the confirmation of the electronic booking request is received by the user via EDI.

63. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the confirmation of

the electronic booking request is received by the user via electronic mail.

64. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the confirmation of the electronic booking request is received by the user via a pop-up dialogue box.

65. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 13, wherein the electronic event notification messages are generated using electronic mail.

66. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 13, wherein the electronic event notification messages are generated using pop-up dialogue boxes.

67. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 13, wherein the electronic event notification messages are generated using EDI.

68. (Currently Amended) A common carrier system comprising:  
a first computer storage located at a first carrier registered with the system;  
a second computer storage located at a second carrier registered with the system; and  
a server that receives information from said first storage and said second storage, said server also providing and provides a computer user interface displayed on a user's computer, the server user interface enabling a user to:

submit an electronic booking request to the server which ~~will forward~~exchanges said request to at least one of the first and second carriers;

submit a routing request to the server which ~~will forward~~exchanges said request to at least one of the first and second carriers;

submit shipping instructions to the server which ~~will forward~~exchanges said instructions to at least one of the first and second carriers;

receive a confirmation of the electronic booking request from at least one of the first and second carriers as transmitted from the server;

receive routing information from at least one of the first and second carriers as transmitted from the server; and

receive a booking activity plan from at least one of the first and second carriers as transmitted from the server, wherein the booking activity plan comprises transport modes, transshipment locations, and interim arrival and departure dates and times.

69. (Currently Amended) A common carrier system comprising:

a first storage located at a user registered with the system;

a second storage located at a carrier registered with the system; and

a server configured

to receive an electronic booking request sent from the first storage,

to store the electronic booking request, ~~and~~

~~to send~~exchange the information relating to said electronic booking request to ~~with~~ the second storage, wherein the electronic booking request includes a request to transport one or more containers, ~~and wherein said request is sent from said first storage to the server which will forward said request to the second storage,~~

to receive information from said carrier relating to said request, and

to forward a message to said user based on said information received from said carrier regarding said request.

70. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 69, wherein the electronic booking request comprises an EDI message.

71. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 69, wherein the electronic booking request comprises an XML message.

72. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 69, wherein the server is configured to sent the electronic booking request to the second storage using EDI.

73. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 69, wherein the server ~~is further configured to receives~~ a confirmation of the electronic booking request from the carrier as at least part of said information.

74. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 73, wherein the confirmation of the electronic booking request comprises routing information.

75. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 73, wherein the confirmation of the electronic booking request comprises a carrier booking number.

76. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 69, wherein the server is further configured to receive a booking activity plan from the carrier and to use the booking activity plan to provide container tracking services to the user.

77. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 69, wherein the server is further configured to modify a booking after physical movement of the one or more containers has begun.

78. (New) The system according to claim 1, wherein said server forwards said request to at least said first entity of said plurality of entities.

79. (New) The common carrier system according to claim 13, wherein said server forwards said request to said at least first entity.

80. (New) The common carrier system according to claim 68, wherein said server forwards said request to said at least one of the first and second carriers.

81. (New) The common carrier system according to claim 69, wherein said server forwards said electronic booking request to said at least one of the first and second carriers.

82. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the user interface further enables the user to send shipping instructions to the first entity through the server after the user has received confirmation of said booking request from the server.



**REMARKS**

Applicants thank the Examiner and Primary Examiner Nguyen for the interview of March 14, 2006.

The changes made are responsive to the discussion regarding this application.

In particular, claims 1, 3, 4, 13, 14, 68, 69, and 73 have been amended. New claims 78-81 have been added. No new matter has been entered. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested.

If any fees are required or if an overpayment is made, the Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 19-0733 accordingly.

If for any reason the examiner believes the application is not in condition for allowance or there are any questions, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 824-3184.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Dated: April 20, 2006

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